



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Superior
National
Forest

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File Code: 1950/5430

Date: February 23, 2015

Dear Interested Parties:

The Superior National Forest (SNF) is proposing a land exchange with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. With this exchange, the United States would acquire approximately 30,000 acres of non-federal land within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) in exchange for an equal value of federal lands to be selected from a pool of approximately 39,074.65 acres of federal land outside the BWCAW. The exchange properties would be of equal value or may be equalized by the payment of cash by either party. The 'Project Scoping Package' available under the School Trust Land Exchange webpage at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/superior/projects explains the purpose and need for the project in detail and describes the proposed action.

The purpose of scoping is to inform interested and affected parties of the proposed action and to solicit comments on the proposed action. The comments we receive will help determine the scope of analysis, and those comments that lead to environmental issues will assist us in developing alternatives and analyzing environmental effects. At this time, I am inviting you to make site specific comments on the School Trust Land Exchange proposed action. The Project Scoping Package includes describes the environmental analysis process for this exchange and outlines the process on how to submit comments. Your comments are most useful if received by *May 15* ~~April 30~~, 2015. If we do not hear from you, your name will be removed from the School Trust Land Exchange project mailing list.

I am also inviting you to attend open houses to ask questions and learn more about the project. Please see the Scoping Package for details on the open houses.

The Scoping Package (including maps of the proposed action) is available electronically on the SNF web site: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/superior/projects under the School Trust Land Exchange webpage. Paper copies of the scoping documents are available upon request. For more information, please contact Peter Taylor, Project Manager, at (218) 626-4368 or Elizabeth Schleif, Lands Program Manager, at (218) 626-4373.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chip Weber
CHIP WEBER
Acting Forest Supervisor



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